

MINUTES
HOUSE STATE AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

DATE: Thursday, February 02, 2023

TIME: 9:00 A.M.

PLACE: Room EW40

MEMBERS: Chairman Crane(13), Vice Chairman Young, Representatives Palmer, Barbieri, Holtzclaw, Scott, Andrus, Skaug, Alfieri, Allgood, Crane(12), Gannon, Green

**ABSENT/
EXCUSED:** Young, Skaug

GUESTS: The sign-in sheet will be retained in the committee secretary's office; following the end of session the sign-in sheet will be filed with the minutes in the Legislative Library.

Chairman Crane (13) called the meeting to order at 9:00 A.M.

MOTION: **Rep. Allgood** made a motion to approve the minutes from January 30, 2023, and January 31, 2023. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

RS 30104: **Senator Nichols** presented **RS 30104** and informed the committee the intent of this legislation is to encourage programs and policies that sustain greater local food security and to improve access to healthy foods. Senator Nichols added this legislation also protects the inherent right citizens have to sustain themselves by growing food on their own property, including property contained within a homeowner's association. It is important to note residents will need to comply with all local and county ordinances. Senator Nichols shared property owners may not dedicate more than 60% of their backyard to food production.

MOTION: **Rep. Scott** made a motion to introduce **RS 30104**. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

RS 30009C1: **Rep. Alfieri** presented **RS 30009C1**. He stated absentee ballots are a very important part of the voting process in this republic, however, with the increased use of absentee ballots, the potential of voter fraud has also increased. The cleaning of voter rolls has become a problem. Six percent of the population moves every year and it becomes difficult to mail ballots to the correct address. **RS 30009C1** sets very specific parameters to when citizens may vote via absentee ballot. It is important to protect the veracity of elections.

Rep. Alfieri clarified a long-term illness or hospitalization is a reason to receive an absentee ballot and the elector will not be required to share details but simply use a check box. If an individual commits fraud, there is existing code to address the punishment. Rep. Alfieri will provide the committee with more details regarding what early voting opportunities exist in the counties and how much time is needed to request an absentee ballot. Rep. Alfieri acknowledged Idaho does not have specific, firm evidence of voter fraud but there are indications.

MOTION: **Rep. Scott** made a motion to introduce **RS 30009C1**. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

ADJOURN: There being no further business to come before the committee, the meeting adjourned at 9:32 A.M.

Representative Crane (13)
Chair

Lisa Hendricks
Secretary